



BY THE GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF GEORGIA

A PROCLAMATION

SPAY AND NEUTER AWARENESS MONTH

- WHEREAS: For centuries, domestic animals have provided companionship, unconditional love, and loyalty to people around the world. Today, companion animals share the homes of millions of Americans and Georgians, offering their guardians affection and an improved sense of well-being; and
- WHEREAS: The citizens of Georgia have a responsibility to spay and neuter their pets, as such procedures have proven beneficial to ensuring the overall health of companion animals. Spaying and neutering has also been shown to drastically reduce pet overpopulation, an issue which costs the United States more than \$1 billion annually to address; and
- WHEREAS: Each year shelters must euthanize millions of cats and dogs, many of whom are both healthy and adoptable, due to an inadequate number of responsible homes to care for such companion animals; and
- WHEREAS: Spaying and neutering contributes to the long-term health of companion animals, while also helping to eliminate or reduce a number of health problems that can be difficult or expensive to treat; and
- WHEREAS: All of Georgia's pets should be assured loving homes and care throughout their lifetimes; now
- THEREFORE: I, NATHAN DEAL, Governor of the State of Georgia, do hereby proclaim February 2018 as SPAY AND NEUTER AWARENESS MONTH in Georgia and join in recognizing February 27, 2018, as WORLD SPAY DAY.

In witness thereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the Executive Department to be affixed this 22nd day of January in the year of our Lord two thousand eighteen.



Nathan Deal

GOVERNOR

ATTEST

Chris W. Riley

CHIEF OF STAFF